



**1156th meeting of the
Pacific Coast Numismatic Society**
7:30PM Wednesday August 22, 2012
Building C, Fort Mason
San Francisco, California

The War of 1812

Donald H. Kagin

Michael Turrini presented **Coins with Stories**.

The ABC Peso of Cuba provided his first story. Struck from 1933 to 1939 and the size of a U.S. silver dollar, the coin was named for the ABC terrorist cells fighting U.S. protectorate status. Roosevelt abrogated the protectorate status in 1933 and members of the ABC cells became members of the new government, including the Treasury secretary, hence the name. The pesos were slated to be melted in the 1940s, but collectors saved some. Michael shared a 1937 peso, the rarest of the set.

A 1928 Irish proof set provided his second story. The English had dominated Ireland since the 1100s and the battles between the poor Catholic Irish population and the British government came to a head with the 1916 Easter Uprising. Although the British put down the uprising and executed the instigators, one of its leaders was spared because his mother was an American. He survived to become the first Prime Minister of the Free State of Ireland in 1922. William Butler Yeats was selected to chair the committee to design the nation's first coinage. Percy Metcalf's designs were selected with the harp on the obverse to represent the state and familiar farm and game animals and inscriptions in Gaelic on the reverse. Ironically, the coins were struck at the Royal Mint in London.

Michael's final story involved a silver award tray presented to the Mark Hopkins for the best-decorated cable car during the 1973 Cable Car Centennial in San Francisco. Michael rode the bus nearly every day with a lady who worked at the Mark Hopkins for most of her life. He remembered the day she boarded the bus and told the story of winning the award and being presented with the tray. Years later, he was offered the tray at a coin show and bought it on the spot remembering the lady from his early years as a student and teacher.

Exhibits included:

Federico shared an 1818 Guatemalan 8 reales and a copper medal produced by the French mint to honor the first Latin American to win the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1967.

Mark shared 2 Wells Fargo medals and a 1908-S Indian Head cent

acquired during a trip to Mexico City. The Wells Fargo medals were purchased when he placed a minimum bid on what he thought was a single medal. Imagine his surprise when he won and learned it was two medals, not one.

Manual brought a framed 2-dollar bill with horse racing story and \$2.00 betting ticket. As a bonus, the bill is a star note.

Catz shared a selection of pocket change from his own pocket, his father's pocket, and his grandfather's pocket. They helped shape his interest in collecting coins.

Michael brought three railroad medals from Peru featuring Henry Meiggs. Meiggs built the first wharf on North Shore, but defrauded the city in the process. He fled to Peru where he became a railroad developer. The medals commemorate a few of his accomplishments. He also shared an early stereo card showing an Andean glacier on Mount Meiggs.

David shared the new 2012 Birth Year coin set issued by the U.S. Mint.

Dan shared a Pf-63 1929 Graf Zeppelin commemorative medal and two 1705 1 Zolotta Ottoman Empire coins, one MS-62 (none finer) and one AU 55.

Whalen shared his stories of Godless Numismatics. In 1911, Canadian coins omitted DEI GRA, by the Grace of God, from the new coins of George V. The legend was restored the next year. He shared the 1911-1912 pairs of large cents, quarters, and half dollars. He also shared the Saint-Gaudens 1907 \$20 gold piece without the In God We Trust motto and a later piece with the motto added to the reverse design.

Glen shared two Louis XIV restrike medals, a Hawaiian quarter, an 1894 Mid Winter Fair medal, 2 PPIE medals, an Arizona token from Jerome, and a National Defense decoration store card.

Bill brought coin boxes and solid coin stacks issued as souvenirs for the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition and the 1894 California Midwinter Exposition.

Michael shared two Calgary Numismatic Society leather “steer hides.”

Stephen shared a silver coin box (made from white metal) built around a 1689 coronation medal. He also showed three Roman coins, two regular issues and the third a mule struck from mismatched dies of the first two in the attempt to maintain die and coin production in the days following the death of Constantine the Great.

Herb shared an 1846 book by William Smith, *The Coins of England*. The book has an attractive binding and wonderful color illustrated plates.

Raffle Prizes:

Whalen won a 1994 one ounce silver Mexican bullion piece.

Dan won an 1888 Canadian dime.

Catz won a California souvenir medal.

Manual won a lot of paper Notgeld.

Mark won a 1992 Columbus commemorative half dollar.

2012 meeting Schedule:

September 26, 2012: Building C, Fort Mason

October 24, 2012: Building C, Fort Mason

November 28, 2012: Building C, Fort Mason

December 26, 2012: Building C, Fort Mason

Important Notice About Parking

The AC Village for the first AC World Series in San Francisco will be located at Marina Green and will be open from August 21-26. Opening hours for the AC Village for all days is from 10am through 6pm, with racing scheduled in the early afternoon. Parking will be impacted through the area. Fort Mason staff have informed us that parking inside the gates at Fort Mason Center will be \$20 per day per vehicle August 22-26, America's Cup race dates.